VOLUME IV

NUMBER 12

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE ALBERTA TEACHERS' ALLIANCE. INC

MAGISTRI NEQUE SERVI



MAY, 1924



Why Tenure is Necessary

It is significant that no other educational measure meets with

as intense opposition as does tenure.

Those who view the public school system as too great a financial burden find themselves in the company of those who distrust the purpose of public education and those who look upon it as the greatest of our social institutions and therefore aim to control it at all costs.

Control of the schools means domination of the teachers. Domination of the teachers is the more easily maintained where the standard of qualifications is not too rigid. Persons of low economic stature are usually more easily controlled. salary question becomes the first line of defense against the progress of the schools.

If public opinion or local pride becomes responsible for better salaries and a more self-reliant grade of teachers, there must be recourse to the second line of defense which is the establishment of such working conditions as will offset the benefits of better

salaries and thus tend to maintain mediocrity.

It becomes evident that tenure is the last line of defense for those who hold to the view that education must not function as a thing in itself. Teachers free to live up to their professional standards would not allow education to be used for the ignoble purposes of those in our society whose views are materialistic or sordid. Training in the schools for citizenship would come into its own.

_From the Bulletin of the A.F. of T.

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS NOW

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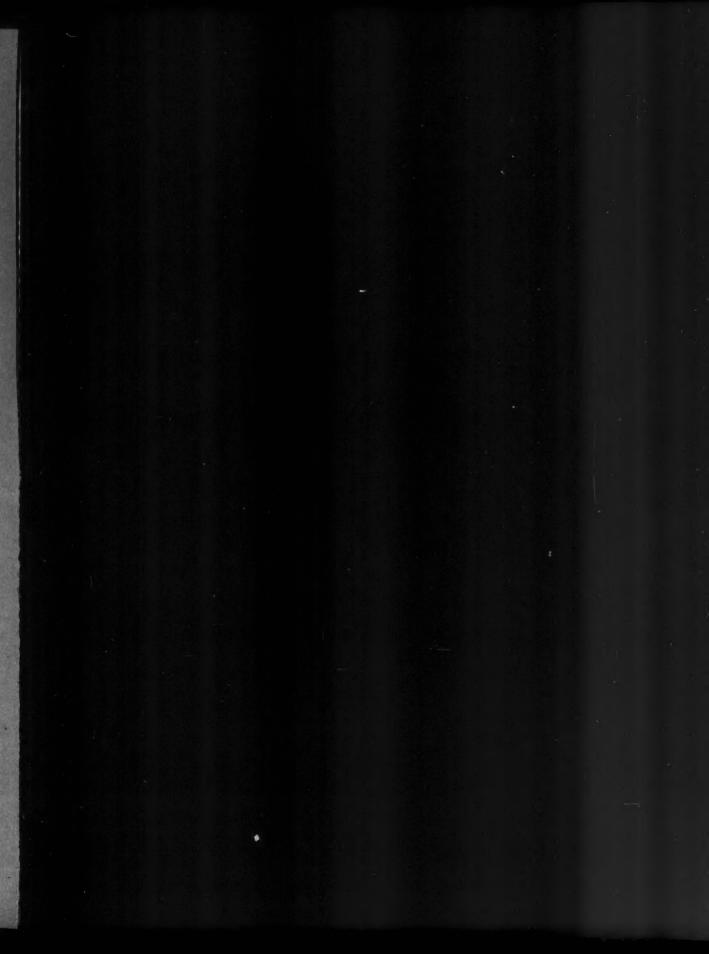
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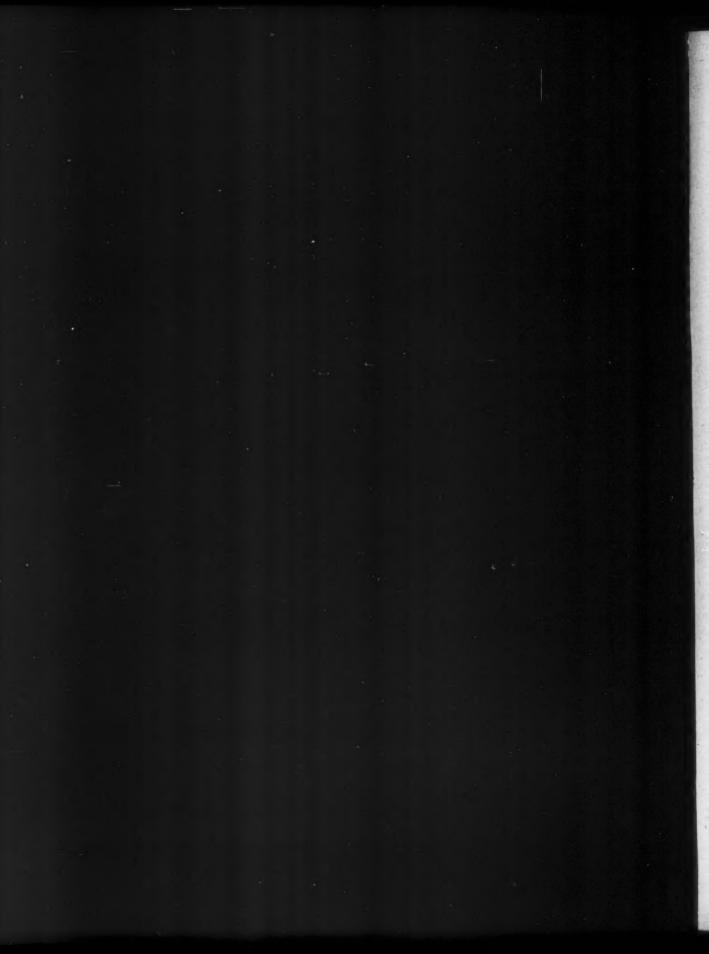
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The A.J.A. Magazine

MAGISTRI NEQUE SERVI

Official Organ of the Alberta Teachers' Alliance, Inc. Published on the First of Each Month.



EXECUTIVE OF A.T.A. 1924-25.

President: W. W. Scott, Calgary.
Immediate Past President: J. E. Somerville, Edmonton.
Vice-President: S. R. Tompkins, Lethbridge.
GENERAL SECRETARY-TREASURER: John W. Barnett, 10701
University Ave., Edmonton.

TRUSTEES: F. Parker, Calgary; H. L. Humphreys, Edmonton; J. Stevenson, Pincher Creek; J. McCrea, Vegreville; C. Riley, Medicine Hat.

SOLICITORS: Van Allen, Simpson & Co., Edmonton. LAW COMMITTEE: S. R. Tompkins, F. Parker, C. Riley.

The A.T.A. Managine

EDITOR: H. C. Newland, M.A., LL.B., Edmonton.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS: T. E. A. Stanley, Calgary; J. T. Cuyler, Medicine Hat; Miss M. J. Goudie, Medicine Hat; C. S. Edwards, Edmonton; J. D. Ferguson, Calgary.

BUSINESS MANAGER: John W. Barnett, Edmonton: Published, Controlled and Edited by the

ALBERTA TEACHERS' ALLIANCE PUBLISHING CO. LTD. 10012 102nd Street, Edmonton, Alta.

Subscription: Members of A.T.A. - - - - \$1.00 per annum Non-Members - - - - \$1.50 per annum

Vol. IV.

Edmonton, May, 1924.

No. 12

LIMESTONE LAKE S. D.
LUCKNOW S. D.
WABAMUN SCHOOL BOARD
WAINWRIGHT S. D. No. 1658
GLENWOOD CONSOLIDATED No. 32
REDCLIFF SCHOOL BOARD
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CRAIGMYLE SCHOOL BOARD

Candidates selected for the above posts who are members of the A.T.A. are earnestly requested to apply for information to

JOHN W. BARNETT, General Secretary-Treasurer, Alberta Teachers' Alliance, 10701 University Ave., Edmonton.

Official Announcements

TO SECRETARIES OF LOCALS:

PAYMENTS REQUIRED OF MEMBERS

	Annual Salary	Membership Dues to A.T.A.	Subscription to The A.T.A. Magazine	Total
(1)	Under \$1500	\$ 5.00	\$ 1.00	\$6.00
(2)	\$1500 but less than \$20	00 7.00	1.00	8.00
(3)	\$2000 but less than \$25	00 9.00	1.00	10.00
(4)	\$2500 and over	10.00	1.00	11.00

These fees do NOT include the local Alliance fee.

N.B.—The above dues include membership to the Canadian Teachers' Federation. The subscription to the "A.T.A. Magazine" is not compulsory, but no loyal member of the Alliance should withhold the \$1.00 subscription.

5. A vigorous collection campaign now will do more than anything else to assist the Executive in planning for the entire year. A splendid collection report will mean more than most members realize.

Has your Local appointed a good live membership committee?

CONTRACTS-TEACHERS ACCEPTING NEW POSITIONS

A recent judgment of the Alberta Appeal Court shows that a secretary-treasurer of a school board cannot be delegated to make arrangements for appointing a teacher except the school board has by resolution at a regular or special meeting special cally appointed the particular teacher. If a teacher receives a letter from a school board accepting him as teacher it is necessary that there be a guarantee given that a resolution such as referred to above has been formally passed by the board; otherwise the teacher has no hold on the school board nor any of the members or officials thereof. The contract MUST be signed before the teacher commences duties.

REPORTS OF LOCAL ALLIANCE MEETINGS, ETC.

The A.T.A. Magazine does not contain sufficient Alliance news. This complaint is frequently made. The fault, however, is not due to the management, but to the fact that the Editor and others responsible for collecting material for the Magazine are not given the necessary support by the Locals. If a Press Correspondent has not been appointed by your Local, the Secretary or President should send in reports of Local Alliance Meetings, School Fairs, Items of Personal Interest—to members, new appointments, marriages of members, deaths of members, etc., Reports of Conventions and Institutes, and all other items of local educational interest. These reports are really DESIRED, and persons sending same will receive the sincere thanks of the Provincial Executive.

TRACHERS IN DIFFICULTIES

Members are urgently requested not to prejudice their case by acting without having received advice previously. Several cases have recently been brought to our notice where teachers have been stampeded into action—have even resigned—thereby rendering it impossible for the Alliance to be of assistance.

If a member in difficulties is a member of a Local Alliance, refer your case to the Local Executive, and if they so recommend, the matter may be referred to Headquarters. A report should be forwarded by the Local Executive. Many cases may be more expeditiously and successfully dealt with by the Local Alliance than by the Central body. Local organizations should function wherever possible.

If a Member at Large, a letter, lettergram or long distance phone call will be promptly attended to, and the necessary advice tendered. (Phone Number 31583, Edmonton.)

LOCALS

Have you tried to form a local and been discouraged and unsuccessful? The time of disappointment should now be ended. No longer is it necessary to be compelled to gather together TEACHERS can meet in one centre, the Annual General Meeting has instructed the General Secretary to recognize them as a Provisional Local Alliance; that is to say: If headquarters is informed of the name of the Provisional Local Secretary all official notices, communications, etc., will be forwarded. Don't be satisfied by being merely a "member at large": get into the organization work, and make the Alliance function in your midst—Provisional Locals should spring up everywhere. MAKE SURE OF ONE WHERE YOU ARE. Don't leave it to "George" to do it. Do your "bit."



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Why must a silk worm die in order to give us its silk?

When Bees take honey from the flowers do the flowers get a fresh supply?

How is it that when a worm is cut in two it still lives?

Do fishes sleep under water

Why do flowers vary in colours?

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NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF LOCAL SECRETARIES

Local Alliance	Name and Address of Secretary
BANFF	. Hugh J. Macdonald.
BASHAW	
BEISEKER	
	.Mr. C. V. Asselstine, B.A., Bellevue.
BLAIRMORE	
BROOKS	. Miss M. B. Warren.
CALGARY PUBLIC	F. Parker, 929 4th Ave. W.
	Jos. English, 535 18th Ave. N.W.
CALGARY HIGH	Mr. I. C. Flick, 1838 34th Ave. S.W.
CALGARY NORMAL	
CAMROSE	
CAMROSE NORMAL	
CANMORE	
	Miss Lucille Woolf, Cardston.
	Mr. G. W. Saul, Chauvin.
CHIPMAN	Mr. J. Glover, Chinook.
CLARESHOLM	
CLIVE	
CONSORT	
	Mr. J. F. Barker, Daysland.
	Miss L. M. Flack, Donalda.
DRUMHELLER	
	Mr. A. E. Bosborough, 9611 83 Ave.
EDMONTON PUBLIC	Miss L. Robinson, Parkdale School
EDMONTON SEPARATE	Miss Irene Fitzgerald, 10738 108th S
EDSON	
ELNORA	
GLEICHEN	
GRANUM	
HARDISTY	
	Miss A. Creighton, High River.
HILLCREST	
HOLDEN	Mr. Sam Crowther, Innisfree.
LACOMBE	
	Miss Ada A. Crilley, B.A.
	P. S. Collins, 1740 7 Ave. N. Leth-
	bridge.
	D. J. Lonsbeiry. High School.
MAGRATH	Miss N. M. Taylor.
MEDICINE HAT PUBLI	CIna G. Holmes, 545 Dundee Street.
MEDICINE HAT HIGH .	Mr. G. M. Dunlop, Alexandra High
	School.
MILLET	
MONTARIO	John Paul, Monitor Miss J. J. S. McCallum, Mundare.
	Mr. H. G. Menzies, M.A., Nanton.
NORDEGG	
OKOTOKS	Miss L. C. Patterson, Okotoks.
OYEN	Mrs. Alice C. Robinson, Oyen.
	Eric V. C. Tucker, Pincher Creek.
PROVOST	
	Jno. H. Blackmore, Raymond.
RED DEER	Miss Pearl Ebert, B.A., Red Deer.
SMOKY LAKE	W. Pinchuk, Smoky Lake
STETTLER	Miss Grace Rogers, Stettler.
STIRLING	M. Campbell, Stirling.
STROME	M. Ureig, Strome
STONY PLAIN	Alex. Stockwell.
TROCHU	Miss T M Mitchell Versenille
VEGREVILLE	Miss I. M. Mitchell, Vegreville.
VIKING	Miss G. Gallagher
VIII.CAW	Miss C. Wylie, B.A., Vulcan.
WASKATENAII	Mr. Hunter, Waskatenau.
WETASKIWIN	Miss O. I. Blakeley, Wetaskiwin.

PROVISIONAL LOCALS

ATHABASCA	Mr. C. O'Daly.
BELLIS	Mr. N. Poohkay.
DALROY	O. C. Reed
ENCHANT	Mrs. Hill, Enchant
HALKIRK	Miss H. V. Forde.
LINFIELD	Mr. W. Wallace
ROSEMARY	Mr. McNamara, Rosemary

Newly appointed Secretaries of Locals are asked to inform Headquarters immediately after appointment in order that our record may be kept up-to-date. The list of Locals and Secretaries will be published every month in the A.T.A. Magazine.

Financial Statement of A.T.A.

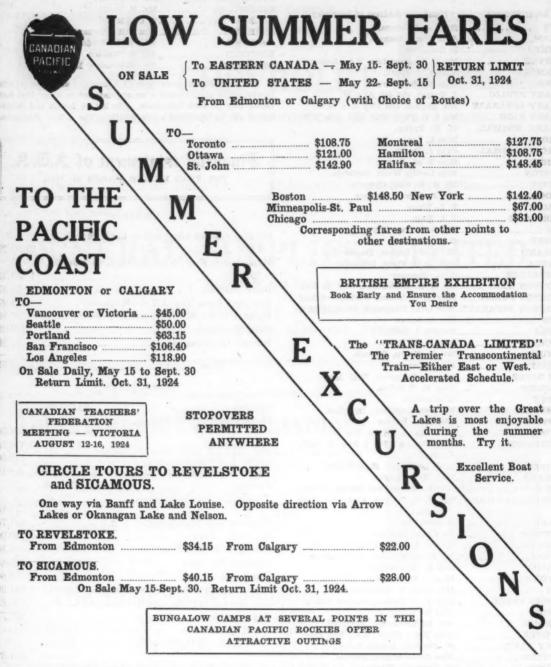
FOR YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1924.

RECEIPTS

Balance cash on hand and in bank, March 31,	
1923	\$ 2,382.28
Membership Fees, Mar. 31, 1923, to Mar. 31,	
1924	11,448.39
Bank Interest	39.31
Received from The A.T.A. Magazine	919.87
Balance to Credit of Suspense Account	86.80
Bills Payable	400.00
Bureau Commissions	. 11.90
Total	\$15,288.55

DISBURSEMENTS	
Salaries\$5,074.00	
Honorarium to President 100.00	
	5,174.00
Commissions	1,372.55
Office Upkeep	140.00
Office Equipment	3 0.10
Postage\$140.73	
Telegrams and Telephones 231.43	
	372.16
Printing and Stationery	327.74
Auditors' Fees	30.00
Discount on Bill Payable	9.55
General Expense	83.44
Exchange	26.84
Traveling Expenses of Executive	681.36
Expenses of Annual General Meeting	246.85
Organization	857.75
Legal Fees\$436.25	
Adjustment of Grievances 231.12.	
	667.37
Canadian Teachers' Federation Capitation	
Fees	860.00
Shares in The A.T.A. Publishing Co., Ltd	1,550.00
A.T.A. Bureau of Education	30.24
\$	12,459.95
Balance cash on hand March 31, 1924	2,828.60

.\$15,288.55



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INCOME

Same as Receipts, less \$400 for Bill Payable \$14,888.55 A.T.A. Magazine for Administration \$1,000.00
Less Amount Received919.87
\$14,968.68 Less balance on hand March 31, 1923 2,382.28
Total Income

EXPENDITURE

Salaries, Commissions, Postage, Telegrams, Telephones, Printing, Traveling Expenses of Executive, Expenses of Annual General Meeting, Organization. Legal Fees and Adjustment of Grievances—same as Dis-	
	9,948.61
Office Upkeep (less \$20.00 unpaid Mar. 31,	0,010.01
1923)	120.00
Canadian Teachers' Federation:	
Capitation Fees Paid\$ 860.00	
Capitation Fees Unpaid 726.50	
\$1,586.50	
Charged to 1923 account\$561.00 Unpaid Traveling Exps 279.80	
——————————————————————————————————————	
	745.70
Reserve for losses from dishonored cheques	200.00
\$	10,915.31
Excess Income over Expenditure	1,671.09

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

ASSETS

Cash on hand, less Reserve for Dishonored

Cheques	52,628.60
Shares in The A.T.A. Pub. Co., Ltd	1,550.00
Owing by A.T.A. Bureau of Education	.30.24
Printing and Stationery on Hand	100.00
Office Equipment Inventory	280.10
Owing by A.T.A. Magazine	1,257.06
Total	5,486.00
LIABILITIES	
Suspense Account	86.80
Bill Payable	400.00
Accounts Unpaid	100.00
Capitation Fees C.T.F. Due\$726.50	
Trav. Expenses Unpaid by C.T.F 279.80	
	446.70
4	1,033.50
NET PRESENT WORTH	4,812.50
Total	5,486.00

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that I have audited the above Financial Statement of the Alberta Teachers' Alliance, Incorporated for the year ended March 31, 1924, and that it is a true and correct showing of the transactions for that period. Cash and Bank Balances have been verified and proper vouchers produced for all expenditures.

HARRY O. PATRIQUIN,

Chartered Accountant.

Edmonton, Alberta, April 12, 1924.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

April 12, 1924. To the Members of Alberta Teachers' Alliance Inc.

Pursuant to instructions received from your Executive, we have audited the books, accounts and records of the Alberta Teachers' Alliance Inc. for the year ended March 31, 1924, and as a result submit herewith certified financial statements for that period.

A charge of \$1,000.00 has been made against the A.T.A. Magazine covering office and administration services during the year. This appears to be a fair and reasonable charge for the services rendered.

A large portion of the annual fees from your members is received in the shape of post-dated cheques, of which about \$800.00 are included in the cash on hand at March 31, 1924. For the purpose of making a safe and conservative statement, we have provided a reserve of \$200.00 to cover possible losses from this source.

We understand that it is proposed to frame a budget for future fiscal periods, and while this is usually an excellent provision where all expenses are controllable or if increased mean that increased revenue is being received, the uncontrollable items of Grievance Adjustment, Law Costs and Organization are an obstacle which will have to be considered and dealt with if the Budget is to be a success.

The system of accounts in use appears to be quite adequate to properly record your accounts and show the operations of your organization. Every assistance has been given us by your office, and all of our requirements have been complied with.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

HARRY O. PATRIQUIN, Chartered Accountant.

Alliance Estimates

FOR THE YEAR ENDING EASTER, 1925.

Estimated Income from All Sources\$12,500.00
ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES

Salaries\$	5,250.00
Commissions	1,500.00
Office Upkeep and Equipment	250.00
Postage, Telegrams and Telephones	400.00
Printing and Stationery	400.00
Auditor's Fees	80.00
General Expense	100.00
Exchange and Bank Charges	25.00
Expenses of Holding A.G.M. and Executive	
Meetings	1,000.00
Organization	1,500.00
Legal Fees and Adjustment of Grievances	750.00
Can. Teachers' Fed. Affiliation Fees	1,000.00
A.T.A. Bureau of Education	300.00

Total \$12,555.00

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Seventh Annual Report of the General Secretary-Treasurer

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:

In presenting my Seventh Annual Report, I feel it should commence with an expression of gratification at the obvious stability of the Alliance as manifested by various indications:

(1) Since its inception, the Alliance has never once reported at the Annual Meeting a decrease in

membership.

(2) A growing tendency on the part of teachers everywhere to seek advice and assistance from their professional organization.

(3) The increased confidence shown by the public as a whole in the sincerity of the organization to advance and safeguard the cause of education.

(4) The recognition of the Alliance as the real and only body in Alberta which can voice the opinion of the teachers in educational matters.

(5) The extension of the activities of the organization and the increasing of the number and variety of its functions.

(6) A steady growth each year in the income.
(7) The dissipation and disappearance of the propaganda against the teachers organizing and expressing themselves as a body.

(8) The conceded right of teachers to express their thoughts and opinions on matters intimately concerning their economic and professional welfare.

The above are a few of the many indications of the stability of the Alliance, and the time seems ripe for another great advance along the path of advancement and progress.

Our great "leap" year, 1919, was a direct answer to a "call from Macedonia" made by the teaching body, and the call is now heard again. It may be as well to recall the condition of affairs immediately precedent to the time of great advance. The teaching profession was in the deepest possible state of despondency. Teachers' salaries were "cut" while all other wage earners were reaping considerable compensation for the increased cost of living; teachers felt themselves powerless; they were leaving the profession by hundreds because of the apparent hopelessness of things; permits and letters of authority were showered like blessings on the poor; individual teachers were without any form of protection whatsoever against wrongful treatment; officialdom and autocracy were apparent everywhere; those outside the profession treated teachers with a most humiliating condescension. But a few earnest and enthusiastic souls continued to show faith in the fraternity and hoped for and worked for better things. And with what result? The inception of the Alberta Teachers' Alliance, the birth of the teaching profession in Alberta. The public were astonished at the capacity of the teachers to organize and develop a professional consciousness. More prominence and publicity probably was given to the Alberta Teachers' Alliance than to any other organization in Alberta: in fact, a certain section of the press so respected the growing strength of the Alliance that they expressed fears that, if not checked in time, it would become so powerful as to "exert a strangle hold" on the public. All this nonsense and exaggeration showed one thing-respect, even fear, of the teaching profession organized and well led. Alliance was put through the furnace of fiery tribulation, but emerged purged and purified and freed from

some of the shackles which, previously, had bound it. A new form of contract was issued from the Department of Education, not perfect, it is true, yet it marked an important improvement on the old form; a provincial schedule was drawn up whose minimum salary became generally recognized in Alberta and had an important bearing on salaries paid throughout the Dominion; the principle of investigations into dismissals of teachers was conceded as a right; representation was won on Departmental committees and on school boards; the right of the teachers to collective bargaining and negotiation as a body became generally unquestionable; representatives of the Alliance received approaches from public gatherings to present the teachers' point of view, and other organizations desiring information on educational questions commenced to seek advice and assistance from the Alberta Teachers' Alliance.

What Alberta had done, other provinces could do. Saskatchewan and Manitoba followed suit, steps were taken to form a Western teachers' federation, which became a Dominion-wide organization instead with practically 15,000 members—an organization with tremendous potentialities for development of strength and progress. These things did not come of themselves; they are a result of will and determination to progress. Progress can only be achieved as a consequence of expenditure of effort and a sense of right and justice in the cause. What has been accomplished in the past can be accomplished again. But first it must be asked: Are teachers content to be shy and retiring souls? Are teachers content to rest on their oars? Are they content to have their repeated requests for some adequate form of protection against unjust treatment and unfair dismissals treated as if they had not been voiced? Are the teachers concerned about the onslaught made against the cause of education, or to take a subordinate or supplementary part in affairs of state, particularly education? Are town and city teachers sufficiently concerned about the welfare of the rural teachers who are suffering serious economic stress-lowered wages and unpaid salary-to bestir themselves on behalf of the profession as a whole? Are they content to have education and the teachers welfare treated as an entirely unimportant issue, not worthy of even a discussion in the Legislature? These seem to be the questions which must be settled before there can be any further advance along the line of professional solidarity.

Immediately after the advent of the present administration, official representatives of the Alliance waited on the Minister of Education and presented the Alliance point of view on the matters mentioned below. A manifesto was presented to the Minister and published in the A.T.A. Magazine. One of the leading newspapers of the Province commented on the manifesto and in an editorial expressed the opinion that the petitions of the teachers were fair and reasonable. The Minister gave the Alliance a most attentive hearing and we had high hopes of some progress being made. Permits, letters of authority, better form of agreement, representation of the Alliance on the Examinations Board, Easter week a statutory holiday, the 200-day year, a more workable Board of Conciliation, and various other matters were laid before the Minister, who also acknowledged our reasonableness,

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but pledged nothing owing to his very recent advent to office. Result—nothing!

Again, in February, 1923, at considerable expense, a full deputation from the Executive waited on the Minister and had a full day conference with him and the leading Departmental officials. It was understood that the conference would make earnest endeavors to settle something definitely with respect to the outstanding questions at issue as abovementioned. Executive of the Alliance left the conference firmly convinced that we had definitely reached the promise stage of something definitely being done to meet the point of view of the teachers, even to introducing statutory amendments to the Ordinance, where necessary. Result—objection lodged at the publication of the report of the conference alongside a report composed by Departmental officials. One concession was granted, and one only. The Alliance was privileged to appoint a representative to sit on the Examinations Board, but for one concession made there appeared a counterbalancing offset. The form of agreement was so amended as to take away from the teacher the facilities for adequately preparing her case when appearing before the Board who purpose terminating the contract—the ten days' notice in the previous form was altered to TWO. The 1923 sessions of the Legislature have come and gone and the 1924 session has been dissolved, but again the teachers' just requests have met with no consideration whatsoever.

The Trustees' Association endorsed the principle of a hearing for the teacher, although they opposed by a narrow majority an appeal in case of a sustained dismissal; yet the new form of agreement was so changed as to take away from the teacher what little protection she had.

The present state of affairs carries us back to the spirit of despondency which existed in the early days of the Alliance. The teaching body has been patient, unantagonistic, yet expectant, and feels rightly that their case should have been treated with more consideration, and it is evident that a growing discontent is developing at the present laissez-faire attitude adopted by the Department in matters of consideration and justice to the teacher. A sense of injustice spurred the teachers to action five years ago, and many feel that the time for facing facts as they really are has again arrived. The resolutions for consideration sent in by the locals are a criterion of the feeling of our members on these important matters at issue, and the delegates assembled will doubtlessly deal with them as the occasion requires.

There is a growing tendency on the part of school boards to co-operate with the Alliance, and the deputation from school boards visiting the Alliance office shows that the time has passed when trustees in general look upon the Alliance as their natural enemy. The last Trustees' Convention was noticeably lacking in hostility to the Alliance, and not one resolution was introduced making objectionable reference to the teachers or the Alliance. All that seems to be required at this juncture is a great increase in the proportion of teachers in the province who belong to the Alliance and the presentation of a unanimous appeal for "progress." Common action also, along the line of reaction to the salary "cut" of rural teachers will do much to retain many of the more worthy teachers who are anticipating leaving the profession. If teachers continue to act as if there is a surplus of teachers, then school boards of a certain type will continue to take full advantage of the teachers' delusion.

There has been a "drop" in salaries in rural dis-

tricts during the past few months, due to various causes, but principally to a lack of organization and common action on the part of the rural teachers. The ease in obtaining the wherewithal to carry on while in Normal School; the practical certainty of being able to teach for an indefinite period, whether qualified or not, after putting in the time in Normal; the unsuitable time for closing the Normal School term-in mid-term, before the annual exodus of teachers from the profession at midsummer; the temporary over-supply of teachers due to this cause; students leaving Normal school, out of pocket, a Government loan hanging over their heads, are tempted to adopt "cave-man" tactics in getting a position-all these are tributary causes to the "drop." School Boards obtaining teachers at rock bottom price pass along the word to other boards, some of whom terminate their teacher's agreement and advertise for another teacher at a lower figure, or adopt the insulting system of agreeing to re-engage their former teacher at a reduced salary. We hear a great deal about the unconscientious teacher, but for every need school boards may feel for protection against such, the teaching body can multiply twentyfold their need for protection against sharp practice on the part of school boards. True, it must be expected that a serious economic condition prevailing in the Province should affect adversely the economic condition of the teacher. The cry for economy by the overburdened taxpayer has not failed to focus attention on the most visible recipient of taxes-the teacher. Still the situation has, without exception, been well maintained in the cities of the Province, and the salary of the Alberta teacher has not suffered perhaps as much as might have been expected; nevertheless the reduction has not been without its effect. We have it on excellent authority that in one Normal School the average age of the students is the lowest on record and the graduates' class has dropped from about 40 to eight. This must be attributable to the more mature and better qualified people considering that "teaching is losing its attraction from an economic standpoint."

There is no real over supply of teachers in Alberta. In spite of the stampede for positions last April and May and throughout the midsummer vacation, there were over 120 schools reported closed on October 1 because qualified teachers could not be obtained. Just think, 1,040 went through Normal School in April and EVERYONE received credentials to teach; yet schools were going abegging for teachers in the fall. Less than 650 students are in training this year, and the prospect is a teacher famine in the immediate future. All underbidding and lowered salaries were unnecessary and will remain so; in fact, it would only be fair for the teachers to make a vigorous organized attempt to put rural salaries on the upward trend once more.

The membership of the Alliance has grown considerably during the past year. Since the last Annual General Meeting 2,196 membership subscriptions have been received, as compared with 2,030 a year ago. The increase in membership, however, is much greater than appears at first sight. Last year there was a very heavy enrollment in the Normal Schools, and several hundreds joined the Alliance as provisional members, few of whom remitted their fees as agreed upon. This is probably due to the number of unemployed up to midsummer and the low rate at which many of the students were engaged. Also to the fact that the Normal students get the poorest schools and have not been able to collect full salary. Only comparatively few of the present Normal School students have poined as

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provisional members of the Alliance, the students evidently desiring to avoid incurring the obligations of membership until assured of a position and the wherewithal to pay. The increase in the full membership has been obtained largely by having representatives in the field during certain parts of the year writing up members for the A.T.A. and selling courses for the A.T.A. Bureau of Education. These representatives have found that the teachers are not numerous who refuse to join the Alliance after a personal and individual approach. It would appear, therefore, that the real solution of the membership problem is to have more representatives in the field.

During the past year new locals have been formed at Brooks, Blairmore, Bellevue, Nordegg, Calgary Separate, Holden, Lethbridge High, Dalroy, Halkirk, Banff and Canmore. Certain other locals have been taken off our list because of no evidence of their functioning. Vermilion has disappeared, owing to members of the Alliance leaving the services of the

Vermilion Board.

Two large school boards, and only two, remain in bad standing with the Alliance. All other cases have been amicably adjusted to the satisfaction of both parties, and we wish our new friends every success and happy relationships in the future. It should be noted, however, that sooner or later the disciplinary pressure of the Alliance becomes too great to be borne and school boards seek an adjustment. A marriage contract with non-members of the Alliance is found to be a most unsatisfactory state of domestic affairs, and it is sincerely to be hoped that those boards which have adjusted matters with the Alliance will pardon this reference to the expressed opinion of every board in every case, that "when we thoroughly understand the viewpoint of the Alliance, they are not really unreasonable.

During the past year Executive meetings have been held as follows: One immediately following the A.G.M., one in June, one in October, one in December, one in March, and a sixth, this morning. One special meeting of the Directors of the A.T.A. Publishing Co., Ltd., was held in June. The Directors usually meet after the Executive meetings and ratify the recom-

mendations of the Executive.

The teacher training problem presents some seri-

ous aspects for consideration:

(1) The large number of students who still are carried through Normal by means of a loan. A loan means anxiety to obtain a position immediately. This tempts the student to underbid or quote a low salary.

(2) The large number of starred students admit-

ted to Normal School.

(3) The revival of the "letter of authority." (4) The large number of students who fail to fully

qualify and who are yet allowed to teach.

(5) The lack of any really rigid standard of qualification before a person is allowed to take a position in the class room.

During the last Normal School term some 1,040 students were enrolled. It is common knowledge that the Normal School staffs have striven to raise the standard and make students "toe the mark." In view of the large enrollment and the probable surplus of teachers, it was fully expected that the less hardworking and more poorly qualified students would experience some disadvantage from their disabilities, natural or personally inflicted. Here was an excellent opportunity to raise the standard of qualification and increase the interest of the students in the work. The Normal School principals met last December in conference with

the leading officials of the Department of Education and made definite recommendations with respect to "starring" and "plucking" of inefficients. The re-commendations were adopted with the concurrence of all parties concerned. It was decided that any student who failed in "six" subjects would be granted a Third Class certificate only, and that such students would be required to enter Normal School for a short term and satisfactorily complete the course. Other students who failed in more than "six" subjects would be. "plucked" and granted no certificate whatever. Out of these 1,040 students who attended Normal School some 120 were granted Third Class certificates, and

approximately 30 others were "plucked."

As previously stated, the recommendations were ratified or accepted, and it is surprising that they have not been carried out. In the first place, these 120 students are not all (if any, is a question to be settled) being required to enter Normal School again. It has been definitely decided that certain of these students who have obtained good reports from inspectors will not be called upon to complete the course in normal as they expected. But the most astonishing thing is that the "plucked" students need not have worried at all, for they one and all received a "letter of authority." We were informed that there were only six permits in operation last October, and we could not understand how this could be. We were not informed that this large number of camouflaged permits were in operation. A permit certificate is granted to a person who is supposed to be recommended by the Inspector after the Board has given evidence of inability to obtain the services of a qualified teacher. (I say supposed to be recommended, and leave it at that.) A permit is good for a stated period, and is only good for one particular school. A letter of authority, however, is much more to be prized. It covers a certain period, renewable, presumably, like the permit from time to time, but the holder of one of these "letters of authority" can apply for and be appointed to any school in Alberta. These people-poor students in High School and poorer still in Normal-are now unloaded on the Alberta school system, and it is very likely that this year's Normal School graduates who have ability and have satisfactorily completed the course will have to sit and "twiddle their thumbs" waiting for positions, while poorer qualified students have possession of the schools.

One of the primary aims of the Alberta Teachers' Alliance is to raise the status of the teaching profession, academically, professionally and financially. These methods in vogue of overcrowding the teaching profession; of issuing certificates permitting unsuitable persons to teach; of rendering futile the efforts of Normal School staffs to make a real graduation standard effective and final; of refusing to provide adequate protection to efficient and well conducted teachers; of issuing loans to students other than those who are practically certain to qualify, thus taking away from the Department the inducement to provide an inefficient with the wherewithal to pay back the loan-all these things militate most strongly against any real advance in the standard of teaching or bettering the personnel of the Alberta staff in rural districts. In Manitoba, the Advisory Board has resolved not to admit any starred students to Normal School, and British Columbia has decided likewise. No action has yet been taken by Alberta, and it rather looks as if the overcrowding of the teacher market is of more importance than the standard of qualification of the teacher. If the market is sufficiently overstocked for

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- Give information regarding materials to suit his particular needs.
- Give general suggestions as to seating, singing position, and ventilation during the music period, including the proper seating and arrangement of a class for part singing.
- Tell him how to improve the tone quality of his class work.
- 4. Help him in making the most of his musical ability, be it little or much.
- Give valuable suggestions as to how to improve untuneful voices and deal with monotones in the youngest children.
- 6. Teach him how to teach a rote song.
- 7. Help him in choosing and teaching appropriate singing games and folk dances.
- Give him work in melody writing, if he is ambitious, and his class is a good one.
- 9 If he has access to a talking machine of any kind, show him how to use it to the best

- advantage in developing musical appreciation.
- 10. Give methods of training the ear and encouraging attention and concentration.
- Give him a suitable course of study to cover his individual requirements.
- Give him help in dealing with the boy's voice in adolescence.
- Help him in teaching music reading by means of the tonic sol-far system.
- Answer any technical questions, or teach any technical problems that he desires for use in his music classes.
- Help him plan any written work, tests, or examinations, that he may have time to give his pupils.
- 16. Answers questions which would help himself or his classes to appreciate any vocal, instrumental or orchestral concerts which they may have opportunity to hear.

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A.T.A. Bureau of Education

10012-102nd Street, Edmonton

some portion of the year "sale by auction" of jobs can be continued; efficiency, qualification, experience

and idealism may be thrown to the dogs.

One wonders why the Minister of Education continues to hold himself directly responsible for the issuance of certificates to persons who desire the necessary eredentials to teach in Alberta; one wonders why the Minister and his immediate advisers take no steps to relieve themselves of pressure from individuals who seek special consideration. If such were done, a much more satisfactory and homogeneous state would result, of benefit to and inspiring greater confidence and respect in all parties concerned. This must not be taken as a charge of exercising favoritism on the part of the Department. The point is that the present system lends itself to so much pressure for special consideration from interested parties seeking credentials, and who, at the same time, are able to get into personal touch with Edmonton. It is purely a question of the psychological effect of the personal appeal giving the advantage to those favorably located to Edmonton. In Manitoba, the Minister of Education is relieved of this irksome responsibility of listening to supplicants. All such matters are decided by the Advisory Board, consisting of three elected teachers, one elected in-spector and eight others appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

The past year has been one of splendid and intensive organization work in the cities. Mention should be made of the splendidly organized Calgary Public School Local. Splendid secretarial work has also been done in the Edmonton Public School Local, as is evidenced by the fact that the Edmonton Public School Local Alliance is entitled to 13 delegates to this meeting, while the Edmonton High School Local has six delegates present. The city locals have been working in first-rate harmony with the school boards, and there is an increasing tendency on the part of school boards to enlist the co-operation of the Alliance. Teacher representation at school board meetings is now a recognized institution in Calgary, Edmonton and Medicine Hat, and it is no secret that school board members who, at first, registered such vigorous opposition to the proposals of the Alliance in this regard are now fully converted to and heartily support the idea of representatives appointed by the teachers appearing in their official capacity in conference with the school board at their meetings. Lethbridge has not yet obtained teacher representation, but the school board has at last officially gone on record as conceding the right of

the teachers to negotiate salaries.

A very gratifying feature of the year has been the attitude manifested by the public at the polls during the municipal elections. Certain influential city officials and others have been making an onslaught on the full and complete autonomy of school boards and on the Alberta educational system. Much money and more effort was expended in striking at the very foundations of the system. The public rose grandly to the occasion, and, as far as can be gathered, not a single candidate for election to a school board who favored the policy of these reactionaries was elected. generally accepted idea that the public was apathetic with regard to education has been disproven. The apparent apathy may have been due merely to lack of technical knowledge: there has been, perhaps, a tendency on the part of the public to seek out and elect certain trusted individuals whom they elected ard trusted to deal, on their behalf, with matters on which they are not fully informed, and then forget about the school board until the next election. But

here was something the man in the street could fully apprehend without any intimate technical knowledge; he was able to see that people unsympathetic to education and the welfare of the child, whose only aim was to save money at the expense of education, desired to obtain control of the system. Here was an intention made manifest to place the system in the hands of a more materialistic and altogether different type of individual than had been trusted to safeguard the cause of the educational system, and at the same time take away from the children of the Alberta citizen the right to an education through to the graduation standard of the high school at the expense of the state. The electorate spoke in no uncertain way, and the fine work of the city locals in focusing attention on the serious situation was most effective. The Alliance and all true educationists should not let pass this opportunity for expressing appreciation to Professor McPhee of the University staff for his championship of the cause of education and the child in his public utterances during the past year; neither shall we forget Dr. Alexander, Chairman of the Edmonton School Board, for his recent firm stand against an attempt to lower the standard of education and the economic status of the teachers.

One might be tempted to feel that educational advance in Alberta has reached the "stale-mate" stage (perhaps "perpetual check" would be the more appropriate term) as far as initiative and reform is concerned under the present administration, but the University of Alberta seems inclined to compensate in some degree for the sterility of the Government. Courses for teachers have recently been arranged and lecturers from the Department of Philosophy appear weekly at Calgary. This means that facilities are now placed in the way of another group of teachers to enrol in courses in Psychology and Scientific Education leading to a degree in education similar to those extended to the teachers of Edmonton and district at the University itself. These courses mark a most important advance in the making of teaching a profession indeed, and should give a filip to the hopes of those who long for a chair of Pedagogy to be established at the University of Alberta. The University authorities, at least, are alert and anxious to meet the needs of the teaching profession along the line of raising the standard of professional and academic proficiency. The establishment of these courses offsets in some degree the serious blow dealt at the summer school when the grant

was "slashed" a year ago.

When one examines the estimates of the Alberta Government for the past two years, it cannot but be observed that the estimates for education came in for the lion's share of the slashing, and that very little in the way of sustained vigorous and obstinate opposition was registered by the members of the Legislature. Furthermore, the recent convention of school trustees shows a disinclination to make any protest against the cutting of the grants, and a resolution against the reduction of the inspectoral staff was defeated by a narrow majority. Not that the city trustees were satisfied, but the farmer trustees from the rural districts were determined, evidently, to do nothing to embarrass the farmer government.

Viewed from every angle, therefore, there is need greater than ever for the Alberta Teachers' Alliance to stand solidly as a body, including the unbroken body of Alberta teachers. The heart of the public is sound when it comes to a final decision on education. All that the public needs is leadership. The Legislature as a whole may be apathetic; the Department timid,

"The Teaching of Arithmetic"

AMOS O'BLENES, M.A.

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142 Maryland St., Winnipeg, Man. Jan. 28th, 1924.

J. & A. McMillan, Publishers, St. John. N.B.

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Gentlemen,—
Permit me to thank you for the copy of the
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M.A. This is not the first time that this distinguished
educator has given me the benefits of his wide experience in this field. Kindly thank him for me and
allow me to wish you and him a large salle of a little
book that is as full of common sense as it is of really
solid arithmetical material. I wish that every
teacher in Canada could get Mr. O'Blenes' spirit in
laying down arithmetical fundamentals.

I thank you sincerely. I thank you sincerely.

Respectfully,

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conservative and unaggressive; interested officials and others whose desire it is to save taxes, even at the expense of the future Alberta citizen, unable yet to appreciate the danger that confronts him, may rave and propagandize against a full and complete educational system; the heart of the people being right, the Alberta Teachers' Alliance must rise to the obligation which devolves upon it. The public, lacking knowledge and education in education, is calling for leadership and guidance. May the teaching profession rise to the occasion.

Statement of A.T.A. Magazine

BALANCE SHEET. MARCH 31, 1924.

ASSETS

Accounts Receivable (Ex	thibit 1)\$1,082.30
Cash on Hand	91.00
A.T.A. Bureau of Educat	ion 62.50
Total Control of the	\$1,235.80

LIABILITIES

Alberta Teachers' Alliance Inc\$	1,248.06	
Bills Payable (Bank)	292.20	
Canadian Bank of Commerce, Over-draft	49.40	1,589.66
Net Deficiency March 31 1924		353 86

DEFICIENCY ACCOUNT

Balan	nce March	31, 192	23	\$633.19
Less	Crossland	Adjust	ment	\$123.19
	One-half	Bureau	Org.	176.50
		•		*299.69

						\$333.00	
Add	Loss	for	Year	Ended	March		
31,	1924	*******				20.36	
						\$	353.86

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT, YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1924.

REVENUE

Advertising	\$4,810.15
Subscriptions	1,788,77
- Constant	\$6,598.92
CHARGES	
Printing	\$3,313.30
Commissions	1,084.57
Editor's Salary	390.00
Sundry Contributors	35.00
Mailing	
Postage	30.84
Bank Charges	44.29
Administration & Office A.T.A. Inc.	1.000.00
Sundry Expenses	
Bad Debts	
Rebates and Adjustments	357.65

Net Loss for Year Ended March 31, 1924\$ 20.36

\$6,619.28

PROFIT AND LOSS SUMMARY

Deficit March 31, 1923	633.19
Crossland Ptg. Co. Adjustment\$123.19 One-half Bureau of Education Organ-	
ization 176.50	299.69
and the second s	\$333.50
Add:	
Loss for year ended March 31, 1924, as above	20.36
Net Deficiency March 31, 1924	\$353.86

AUDITOR'S REPORT

April 14, 1924.

A.T.A. Magazine, Edmonton, Alberta

Edmonton, Alberta. Dear Sirs.—

We have audited your books, accounts and records for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1924, and as a result have prepared and submit herewith Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement of your business for that period, together with a list of Accounts Receivable as stated in the Balance Sheet.

We have found the records properly kept, and in our opinion the statements submitted herewith are a true and correct showing of the operations of your Magazine for the past fiscal year, as well as properly representing your financial standing at the conclusion thereof.

Proper vouchers have been produced to us cover-

ing all expenses and receipts.

We will be pleased to supply any further information which you may desire at any time.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HARRY O. PATRIQUIN, Chartered Accountant.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ALBERTA TEACHERS' ALLIANCE

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

1

RESOLVED, That notwithstanding any provision of the Constitution, previous resolutions or procedure to the contrary, this Annual General Meeting of the Alberta Teachers' Alliance affirms that its Executive is the sole authority to carry into effect, through its Executive Officer or Officers, the resolutions, policies and activities of such Alliance and its subordinate organizations, as resolved upon by successive Annual General Meetings.

2

RESOLVED, That no paid official of this Provincial Alliance or of its subordinate organizations shall hold office or voting power as member of the Provincial Executive.

5

RESOLVED, That in order to eliminate the current duplication of office premises, and of certain features of the administrative work of the Alberta Teachers' Alliance and its subordinate organizations, the Executive shall centralize all such work in one registered office, and shall appoint and clearly define the duties and powers of a General Manager, as the sole executive officer under the Executive of this Alliance.

CONTRACTS

4

WHEREAS, The existing form of contract issued by the Department of Education makes it possible for School Boards to inflict injustice on teachers, in that no provision is made for teacher representation at the investigation in case of dismissal, and that only two days' notice of such investigation is provided for:

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, That the Department be asked to modify the form of contract to provide for teacher representation at investigations dealing with dismissals, and for ten days' clear notice of such investigation to the teacher. (Edmonton High.)

5

WHEREAS, It has come to our notice that teachers are frequently made the innocent victims of local factional jealousies: and

WHEREAS. Cases have been cited in which teachers of unblemished records have been dismissed as a result of these local disputes; and

WHEREAS, In our opinion such procedure is a gross injustice to such teacher and yet a greater injustice to the number.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, That steps should be taken at once by the Department of Education to render it illegal for a Board to terminate a contract with a teacher for any other causes than professional inefficiency or gross misconduct, or neglect to obey a lawful order of the Board. (Edmonton High.)

.

WHEREAS, It is known to this Local that teachers have suffered because of ill-feeling leading to dismissal through complaints derogatory to the teacher's character or work or both, made to the board of trustees by parents having children under his control.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the teachers' contracts include a clause stating that any complaint from any source to a school board regarding a teacher be made in writing and signed by the person making the complaint; and further,

BE IT RESOLVED, That the meeting where the teacher is to hear reasons for his dismissal discussed that the name of the complainants be divulged to the teacher, and an opportunity given for the teacher to interview the complainant in the presence of the Board of Trustees and a disinterested party, preferably a ratepayer, and that unless the complaints are valid the teacher be protected by retaining his position and the complainants be censured. (Stony Plain.)

7

BE IT RESOLVED, That the provise attached to Section (6) Six of Agreement between Trustees and Teachers, namely:

"Provided that no such notice shall be given by the Board until the teacher has been given the privilege of attending a meeting of the Board (of which two clear days' notice in writing shall be given to the teacher), to hear its reasons for proposing to terminate the Agreement."—

Be made to read: "Provided that no such notice shall be given by the Board until the teacher has been given the privilege of attending a meeting of the Board (of which ten clear days' notice in writing shall be given to the teacher), to hear its reasons for proposing to terminate the Agreement."—(Calgary High.)

BICK PAY

8

WHEREAS, Cumulative Sick Pay has been tried in a part of the province and found to be satisfactory; and

WHEREAS, Some School Boards have refused to introduce the scheme:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That we petition the

Provincial Alliance to take such steps as will aid the general adoption of the plan.—(Calgary High.)

0

WHEREAS, The plan of apportioning two days' sick leave to each month and making adjustments at the end of the term works a hardship on the individual teacher:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That we petition the Department to enact by statute such legislation as necessary to instruct all School Boards that no deduction be made from current month's salary checks, but that adjustments be made from the last check of each term.

DISMISSALS OF TEACHERS

10

RESOLVED, That the A.T.A. again strongly urge the Department of Education to make any written message sent by the Secretary of a School Board accepting a teacher for any position with such Board, be a binding agreement in lieu of the regular agreement, until such time as the regular agreement has been signed. (Edmonton Public.)

11

RESOLVED, That the Department of Education be again requested to put into operation the Conciliation Board previously agreed to;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all cases before going to said Board for consideration, pass through the Previncial Executive of the Alliance, thus assuring that each case be authentic and worthy of consideration by the Board. (Ed monton Public.)

EASTER WEEK

12

RESOLVED, That the Minister of Education be again requested to make Easter a statutory holiday. (Medicine Hat High.)

200-DAY YEAR

10

BE IT RESOLVED, That the teaching year be reduced to two hundred days and that salaries be computed on this basis. (Stony Plain Local.)

ADVISORY BOARD

14

RESOLVED, That an Advisory Board similar to that in Manitoba should be created in Alberta. (Edmonton High.)

15

RESOLVED, That the Executive through the General Secretary-Treasurer shall submit an estimate to each annual meeting of the Alliance of the expenditures for the coming year, and that such meeting shall have the power to pass on the various items of the budget.

EXAMINATIONS

16

WHEREAS, The Department of Education set examinations in 1923 involving two subjects combined in one paper; and

WHEREAS. The same policy is apparently to be adopted this year; and

WHEREAS, We believe this to be false economy and contrary to the best interests of education:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alberta Teachers' Alliance strongly protests such action. (Lethbridge Public.)

17

RESOLVED, That all candidates for High School entrance should sit for Departmental Examinations. (Edmonton High.)

18

RESOLVED. That the reports of the Board of Sub-Examiners, re results of Departmental examinations, should be final subject only to the right of appeal on the part of the candidate. (Edmonton High.)

19

WHEREAS, It is known to this local that a Rural School Board appointed an unqualified person to act as presiding examiner in place of the teacher during the June Departmental Examinations, 1923, for Grade VIII.:

BE IT RESOLVED, That in the appointment of the examiner for rural districts precaution should be taken that the said examiner be a qualified teacher. (Dalroy Local.)

2

WHEREAS, A movement has been started to have the Departmental Examinations conducted in July; and

WHEREAS, The extending of intensive study into the month of July is inimical to the physical well-being of the students and prejudicial to their success at examinations:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That we go on record as opposed to such a policy.—(Calgary High.)

21

RESOLVED, That the High School teachers of the province urge the Department to raise the standards in valuing answer papers of Grades IX., X., XI., and XII. (Medicine Hat High.)

95

RESOLVED, That the marks of all students failing or successful be sent to the principals of the High Schools which the students attended. (Medicine Hat High.)

95

RESOLVED, That the Department be asked to publish the names of all Honor Students in the province. (Medicine Hat High.)

EXAMINATIONS BOARD

24

BE IT RESOLVED, That the membership of the High School and Matriculation Examinations Board be extended to include a Public School teacher as well as a High School teacher. (Calgary High.)

INSPECTION

25

WHEREAS, The Department of Education has seen fit to reduce the number of Inspectors in the Province of Alberta; and

WHEREAS, Such a policy is detrimental to educational efficiency in rural schools, since it is practically impossible for the remaining Inspectors to visit such schools more than once, if that often, in the academic year of two hundred days; and

WHEREAS, We do not consider it just or fair that trained Inspectors should be called from rural districts to inspect city schools during certain months of the year, because rural teachers need guidance from the Inspector through lack of experience or lack of time to devote to so many classes, much more than city teachers who always have the assistance of Superintendents, Principals or colleagues of years of experience;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That this Annual Meeting of the Alberta Teachers' Alliance do strongly urge the Department of Education to reconsider its action in the matter of the reduction of the Inspectoral Staff. (Pincher Creek Local.)

21

RESOLVED, That Inspectors of High Schools be requested to send written reports to teachers whose work they have inspected. (Medicine Hat High.)

PERMITS

27

RESOLVED, That, excepting in cases of extreme urgency, no permits nor letters of authority should be issued. (Edmonton High.)

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

21

WHEREAS. The most important function of government in the Province of Alberta today is the provision of adequate and modern educational facilities for the youth of the province; and

WHEREAS, Education of this type can be assured only when those engaged in the profession of education have been adequately trained; and

WHEREAS, The rapid advances in the science of education demand a better equipment on the part of teachers and administrators than is at present obtainable through existing educational institutions in this province; and

WHEREAS, The attendance of hundreds of teachers at Summer Schools each year, not only in Alberta, but in Canadian and American colleges as far east as Montreal and Boston. indicates clearly that they not only sense the need of this training, but are determined to have it even at the cost of great personal inconvenience and sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, Advanced courses and degrees in education are now well established in American and British Universities; and

WHEREAS, The degree from a recognized University is the method commonly employed of signifying attainment in any field of study:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That this Convention urge on the Government the necessity of establishing in connection with the University of Alberta either a College of Education in close affiliation with it. or a Faculty within the University organization where such training as that outlined above could be given:

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the School of Education here proposed offer courses covering four years and leading to the degree Bachelor of Arts in Education. To this end it is further urged that the training now being received by teachers at the Normal Schools be so reorganized as to admit of its being accepted for credit towards the degree mentioned above:

AND FURTHER, That the courses mentioned in the section next preceding be so organized and administered as to practice work and content as to merit the teaching certificate of the Department of Education. (Edmonton Public.)

21

WHEREAS, The successful conduct of the work of education is of the utmost importance to our province and our communities:

AND WHEREAS, The successful solution of the problems facing the teacher requires mature judgment and intelligence of a high order:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Department of Education be urged, as a step towards ensuring that the teachers of this province shall be of a type fitted for their work:

(a) To discontinue the practice of admitting conditioned students to the Normal Schools; (b) To admit to the Normal Schools only students who shall have reached the full age of eighteen years. (Calgary Public.)

TEXT BOOKS

30

WHEREAS, The new course of studies for the elementary schools of the province is approaching its final revision and authorization by the Department of Education;

AND WHEREAS, The experience of the teachers carrying on the work in the schools has convinced them of the great value of suitable textbooks covering definitely the required work in all subjects, in the hands of the pupils of the intermediate and senior grades, and of the serious handicap imposed upon the pupils when such text books are not in their hands:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Department of Education be urged to have authorized as speedily as possible suitable text books for the use of the pupils in all the subjects dealt with in the senior and intermediate grades. (Calgary Public.)

TAXATION

31

WHEREAS, At the recent meeting of the Alberta Municipalities the following resolutions pertaining to educational matters were adopted:

(a) To amend all Charters or Statutes se as to provide that cities with over 5.000 population shall be called upon to pay School Trustees, only the portion of the school taxes collected in any one year.

(b) To provide that a municipality may have power to issue debentures subject to the approval of the Board of Public Utility Commissioners, which shall be given to School Trustees as security for any taxes which may be in arrears.

(c) To amend the law so as to provide that the total school levy including fixed charges in any municipality, shall not exceed 20 mills, based upon the assessment of \$1,000.00 per capits.

(d) To amend the school curriculum and prevent free supplies being given to students other than those of indigent parents, with the view of reducing the present high cost of education.

(e) To make it compulsory that the cost of technical education shall be borne by the students.

(f) To make it compulsory that all persons whose net income exceeds \$2,500.00 per annum, and who do not pay property taxes in excess of \$100.00 per annum, shall pay \$25.00, per annum for each child they may send to the Public or High Schools.

AND WHEREAS, We believe the resolutions stated above to be incompatible with what is implied in free public educa-

AND WHEREAS, We believe the resolutions stated above imply a radical reorganization of our present system of public education:

AND WHEREAS. We believe that the local administration of public education should be regulated in character and in scope solely by governing bodies elected for the special purpose and responsible to the Provincial Department of Education, and not directly or indirectly, by governing bodies existing chiefly for administration of public affairs other than education:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Alberta Teachers' Alliance go on record as opposed to the resolutions above mentioned:

And that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Provincial Minster of Education.—(Calgary High.)

MEMBERS AT LARGE

32

RESOLVED, That at any Annual General Meeting the members of the Alliance unrepresented by delegates of locals may meet and select such delegates as they may be entitled to, provided that the number of members at large which such delegate shall represent be at least six members at large.

VOTES OF THANKS

34

RESOLVED, That a vote of thanks be extended to the retiring Executive.

33

RESOLVED, That a vote of thanks be extended to the representatives of the Press for publicity given and splendid discrimination shown in the press reports.

Local News

LETHBRIDGE

Events in Lethbridge have been "moving" lately, but fortunately not to such an extent as at one time appeared possible. The estimates of the School Board were finally adopted at their meeting on March 27, at \$7,000 less than for 1923. The only change of any consequence made from the original draft, in spite of the endeavors of Dr. Lovering and of a deputation from one of the ratepayers' associations, was a reduction of \$2,000 by eliminating "free supplies" except to indigent pupils, commencing September 1 next.

At the meeting of the Board a definite proposal for a five per cent. reduction of the staff other than teachers was moved by the doctor, when an amendment was moved by Mr. Hamilton that "A committee of the Board meet representatives of the staff and Teachers' Alliance to endeavor to come to some arrangement in the matter of salary reductions. This suggestion of negotiation is worthy of note, and was naturally the only welcome part of the proposal. It might be well to mention here that, after negotiations lasting for several months in 1923, the following resolution was passed by the Board in October of that year: "That the letter from the (local) secretary of the Teachers' Alliance be received, and that the Alliance be informed that when changes in the schedule are proposed this Board will endeavor to submit the proposed changes to the Alliance before the changed schedule is adopted. It was no doubt in accordance with this resolution that negotiation was suggested in the amendment. However, both amendment and resolution were defeated.

The Board on the whole seem anxious to treat the teachers reasonably, and to try to avoid salary cuts except as a last resort, and we hope for their sake and ours that 1924 will see another substantial crop, better marketing cinditions and a general upward trend towards prosperity.

We must record with "mixed feelings" the formation of a "High" local here recently. The move had been contemplated for some time, and while regretting the departure from our midst of some of our most energetic and capable members, we extend to them our earnest wishes for the success of the new body, with whom we hope to co-operate to the fullest possible extent.

MEDICINE HAT PUBLIC

The Medicine Hat Public School local loses yet another teacher by the resignation of Miss Wagstaff, whose marriage to Mr. H. Morley is to take place in June. Miss Wagstaff has been for several years a valued member of the Earl Kitchener School staff, and will be greatly missed.

With the coming of the bright spring days a very comprehensive schedule of playground activities has been organized under the personal supervision of the staffs of the various schools. This organized play, although entailing considerable amount of extra work on the part of the teachers, should have results of a very beneficial character to all concerned. The city schools closed for the Easter holidays on Thursday, April 17th, and reopened on Monday, April 28th. Many of the teachers hoped to attend the A.T.A. convention in Calgary during Easter week.

Two meetings of the local executive have been

held since the last report. The general meeting was on Wednesday evening, April 2nd, when the delegates to th convention were appointed.

MEDICINE HAT

School concerts have been much in vogue this term. "A Christmas Plum Pudding," a Christmas cantata, was the program for the first evening. Much praise is due Mr. Baker, who was responsible for this production.

"Le Voyage de Monsieur Perrichon," a play well known to High School students of French, was cleverly produced under the able guidance and supervision of

Connaught and Elm Junior High Schools each put on excellent mixed programs, the features of which were sketches and exhibition displays of physical

The "finale" of the term is in preparation under the joint guidance of Messrs. Baker and Riley. Each of the programs has been repeated by request and almost a thousand dollars has been the reward.

The High School Alliance has a hundred per cent. membership. A hundred per cent. attendance at the Alliance meetings is invariably obtained. The reason for this is perhaps largely due to the hospitality of the lady members of the staff, who very kindly precede the meeting with a tea hour.

Miss Fowler, of the staff, who is at present attending the University of Chicago, has had the good fortune to attend the N.E.A., at which she heard some of the foremost educational authorities of America.

Miss Wagstaff has resigned, her resignation to

take place at Easter.

The School Board has granted a week's holiday at

The local Alliance have installed a telephone, the purpose of which is to keep in closer touch with the Provincial Executive.

Many of the local teachers intend joining the overseas Canadian teachers' tour this summer.

A spirit of amiability and co-operation pervades the School Board, the Press and the Alliances here. A recent editorial calls attention to the fact that the present generation of students in Medicine Hat is more conscientious regarding home assignments than any other within their experience. Perfect harmony also prevails between the School Board and teachers in all matters of administration.

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But that independence depends largely upon your constantly adding fixed sums to a savings account.

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Correspondence

DOES IT PAY TO JOIN THE ALLIANCE?

The following letter has been received from a school board, after the teacher hs sought in vain for assistance from all other sources, including the Department of Education. The Alliance "did the trick." Names are omitted from the letter because, since the school board finally did the square thing, it would hardly be fair to give publicity to their name.

This is one of many similar cases dealt with success-

fully by the Alliance during recent weeks.

Feb. 10th, 1924.

John W. Barnett.

Alberta Teachers' Alliance.

Dear Sir:

In reply to your letter of Jan. 30th re the complaint - concerning his dismissal from the above S. D., and claim for 37 days' pay in place of proper notice, I have to inform you that this matter was placed before the trustees on Friday, 8th inst., and I am instructed to say that the board admit their liability in this matter and will make payment as soon as the funds of the district will allow. I should also like to inform you (as a trustee of the above board) that I very much regret the shabby and unbusinesslike way in which Mr. -- has been treated and have done everything I possibly could to prevent it, but was overruled by the chairman of the board, who, apparently, has some personal animosity against Mr. ----; hence his dismissal. I pointed out to the board that they were taking grave risks in treating a teacher as they have done as it might result in our school being placed on the black list of your Alliance and, in all probability, make it impossible for us to obtain another teacher. I trust the Alliance will not take this course and that this letter will prove satisfactory to yourself and to Mr. --. Kindly inform me if payment should be made direct to you or to Mr. -

Faithfully yours,

This is the letter which "delivered the goods." January 30th, 1924.

The -- School District No. -Dear Sir:

Complaint has been lodged by --, one of our members, against the - School District, to the effect that the above mentioned School District has closed the school without authority from the Minister of Education during the period dating from January 3rd, 1924.

As a consequence of this irregular procedure Mr. has not drawn salary since January 3rd, 1924, and will not draw salary until February 24th, when the period of notice served upon him by the Board will expire. In addition to this Mr. -- was under expense of returning to - on January 12th, and offered his services to the Board, which services were refused. The Board offered Mr. - twenty dollars (\$20.00) as compensation for his unnecessary journey -, which compensation Mr. -- accepted; therefore this \$20.00 is not included in damages suffered by Mr. - for reasons aforesaid.

Mr. ——— claims salary for the full time lost by him, and this is to inform the -- School Board No. that unless satisfactory indications are given that the above mentioned school district are prepared faithfully to pay to Mr. — the amount of salary aforementioned, namely, for thirty-seven (37) teaching days, proceedings will be taken against the school district in the court for the purpose of establishing his claim and collecting what is legally owing to Mr.

Kindly reply within ten (10) days. Yours respectfully,

ALBERTA TEACHERS' ALLIANCE, INC.
General Secretary-Treasurer.

Hilliard, Alberta, April 28, 1924.

Mr. Barnett, Gen. Sec.-Treas. of A.T.A.,

Edmonton.

Dear Mr. Barnett,—
I think you will remember coming out to Sivit S.D. last February in order to help me with my trouble with the School Board. Your services were very genuine, since the School Board have reformed and, to my great surprise, have now asked me to remain in this school for another term.

I thought this was too good to keep all to myself, so I decided to write and let you know how things turned out. Perhaps it will be of use to you some-

Yours most gratefully,

P.S.-I am, however, not staying in this school.

Communications

Editor, A.T.A. Magazine. Dear Sir,—

Just a little space in your paper is all I ask to express my sentiments. I do not know if you allow anyone outside of your organization to contribute, but if so I would like to congratulate E. M. MacNab on her article "Reading or Thinking"; very well put, and on the right path, too. My experience has been (I am now 48 years young) that when I went to school I was what they call crammed or primed up just before exams. so that I would do the teacher the honor of having me pass; I have found out that when I left school and for a number of years after I knew really nothing. When I was about 28 years of age I read a book which gave me a shock; as I read it I found I had to think and use what little grey matter I had to get out of it what the author wanted the reader to know. That awakening opened up to me a new world in literature, and when I read the article by E. M. Mac-Nab I felt I could not resist the temptation to write this letter.

There is one other item in your April number which I would like to comment on: "Sir Harry Lauder on Thrift." Sir Harry is no economist, even if he is a great singer. If his ideas on thrift were carried to their logical conclusion the present civilization would collapse, and, who knows, maybe the Bolsheviks would get control of this dear Canada horrible thought.—Yours truly,

C. W. SPRINGFORD, Chairman, Blackfoot School Board.

C.J.H. Special Train

Arrangements are maturing for the Canadian Teachers' Federation special train in connection with the 1924 conference at Victoria, B.C. Leaving Toronto at 1 p.m. Monday, August 4, the Canadian Pacific will operate a special train, consisting of Standard drawing-room sleeping cars, observation car and dining car of the very finest equipment. The train will arrive at Port Arthur 3.30 p.m. Tuesday and leave Fort William 8.30 that evening, arriving in Winnipeg at 8 a.m. Wednesday. The day will be spent in Winnipeg, the special leaving at 11.30 that evening. Regina will be reached at 9.30 a.m. Thursday, the train leaving there at 2.30 p.m. An hour will be spent at Moose Jaw, and the train is due in Calgary at 9.30 a.m. on Friday, leaving 3 p.m., arriving at Banff 6 o'clock that evening. Friday evening and all day Saturday will be spent at Banff, at which place a motor drive is arranged for Saturday afternoon. The train will leave Banff at 6 a.m. on Sunday, arriving at Lake Louise at 7 o'clock, and leaving at 2 o'clock in A run of nine hours through the mountains brings the party to Sicamous that night, and the train will leave early Monday morning, arriving at Vancouver 5 o'clock Monday night. The party will stop over at Vancouver overnight, leaving at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, arriving at Victoria 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon.

It is too early yet to make any definite announcements about the functions at each of the stop-overs, but plans are under consideration for drives about the city and luncheons which will fill each of these periods to the full. For the return journey optional routes are offered by C.P.R., C.N.R. or American lines. The cost of the trip will be approximately \$190 for return transportation, and for berth, meals, transfers and drives on the going trip. The cost of berth and meals on the return trip would vary according to the individual, but an outside cost would be from \$50 to \$60. A handsome booklet with full details of the itinerary, stop-overs, costs, etc., is in process of publication, and will be mailed to all applicants. This special train is under the auspices of the Canadian Teachers' Federation and under the immediate supervision of Dr. E. A. Hardy, 124 Duplex Avenue, Toronto, and Mr. R. E. Howe, M.A., Principal Westmount High School, Westmount, Que., who will be glad to answer all inquiries. Applications of intending passengers should be sent to Dr. Hardy.

The train came to a grinding stop at a small town in the south, and the head of a gentleman of color protruded from a window at the end of a car. Seated by his side could be seen a brown-skinned maiden.

"Does yo' knows a cullud pusson by de name o' Jim Brown what lives here?" he asked of a station lounger.

"Ain' nevah heered o' no Jim Brown hyah, an' Ah lived in dis town fo ten yeahs."

"Is yo' right suah dey ain't nevah been no Jim Brown aroun' hyah?"

"Positutely."

"Den," announced the arrival, reaching for a suitease, "dis is whah his new son-in-law gits off."—The Continent.

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tral club house where you can dine, dance, or indulge in social recreation. The bungalows are comfortably furnished and the meals excellent. Do you want to ride, hike, swim, fish, take pictures or paint them? Or do you just want to spend a vacation close to nature? These bungalow camps will satisfy your every wish.

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Bunnalow Camps in the Rockies

MRS. C. HAMER-JACKSON

The man who conceived the "bungalow camp" idea was a genius. To him the Canadian holidaymaker owes a debt which cannot be measured in gold.

To get at the truth of this, one has to consider the requirements of the average holiday-maker. He wants the free outdoor life, with its healthy restfulness, the beauty and majesty of scenery, the exercise and sport, which may range all the way from risking his neck in hunting dangerous big game to the less risky but hardly less strenuous joys of tamer shooting, riding, hiking, swimming, canoeing, down to the lazy satisfaction of fishing or lying in a hammock all day long. As a rule, he does not want these things in absolute luxury, as from the hotel-though he can get them at such places as Banff and Lake Louise; nor, on the other hand, does he want to rough it, to do hard work and hence have no time for enjoyment.

Bungalow camps, where he may live at moderate cost as long as he likes in solid comfort and be served with the very best of everything and yet be very close to nature and very far from all that savors of routine civilization, form the compromise between the two extremes. Therefore, the vacationist should remember their inventor in prayers.

There are bungalow camps and bungalow camps,

but at the time of writing there are twelve bungalow camps which lead them all-three in Ontario, at French River, Nipigon and Devil's Gap, Kenora, and nine in the Canadian Pacific Rockies, at Yoho Valley, Emerald Lake, Wapta, Lake O'Hara, Moraine Lake, Storm Mountain, Vermillion River, Sinclair Hot Springs and Lake Windermere.

Words which will do justice to these unforgettable havens in the wilderness are hard to find. Tumble the contents of Webster's dictionary out pell-mell upon the table, pick out all the laudatory superlatives, and still one is stumped. The task needs a Shakespeare.

From Wapta Camp, on the Great Divide, the mysterious line which controls the destiny of the rivers of the Continent, tumbling down into the Pacific, launching others on their winding, lazy way, to the far Atlantic, there are walks through fairyland—such as those to Sherbrooke Lake, lost among high trees at the foot of a glacier-by paths which cling to the edge of nothing and look down on a world infinitely small and distant. The delicious weariness of those long tramps vanishes after you have dined on the fat of the land in the Community House and have before you the prospect of an evening round the roaring fire, followed by bungalow and bed

Lake O'Hara is approached by pony-trail, a ninemile green tunnel through firs and pines. It lies a thousand feet above Lake Louise, very close to the snowy crests, and is green as a dream and deep as death. Everything you eat is brought up along that pony-trail and tastes good on that account. Round the Lake, eternally on guard, are Cathedral Mountain, Odaray, Hungakee and the Wiwaxy peaks. The sunsets are glorious beyond description, and you float out on a raft to watch them weaving spells in colormagic among those heaven-seeking pinnacles of silence. From the camp an almost perpendicular ladder of a trail among rocks and over meadows takes you to Lake McArthur, frozen till midsummer, enthroned in utter loneliness above gigantic valleys. Other trails lead to Ottertail, Lake Ossa, Abbott Pass and Lake Louise, Opabin Pass and the Valley of the Ten Peaks. Swiss guides will see you through.

Yoho Camp is cradled in a wide valley within sound of the roaring Takakkaw Falls, twelve hundred feet of white water springing from Daly Glacier. Thence a see-saw trail seven miles long winds through rocks and over streams past Laughing Falls to end at a giant champagne-bucket of ice-the glacier. Other excursions, only made by special favor of the guides, lead to Fairy Lake, under more glaciers, on over the vast Mount Daly ice-field. Twin Falls or Summit Lake and Yoho Pass offer long climbs with tea-houses as an extra inducement and, in the case of Yoho Pass, a panorama of monster mountains before which the soul trembles, stricken by a sense of its insignificance.

This Yoho Pass trail leads to Emerald Lake, whose camp is a place of broad verandahs, broad views and such extras as a dancing floor, an orchestra and tennis courts. Anything you can do from Yoho can also be done from Emerald Lake, and there are jaunts to Field through Burgess Pass, up enormous Mount Stephen to O'Hara, McArthur, Oesa, the Ottertail, and via Leanchoil to the Ise River Valley. And Emerald I ake itself is as green as-well, as emerald, the greenest green you ever saw, cold, motionless.

Storm Mountain has a bungalow where you may spend many days looking at Storm and Castle Mountains, the Sawback Range, and peak after peaksuch a view as cannot be equalled anywhere in the Rockies or the Selkirks, unless you are an Alpinist who can climb to the top of the world. The Valley of the Ten Peaks, by Boom Lake, also Lake O'Hara and Wapta Camp, beyond Vermillion, may be reached from this point.

Vermillion River Camp lies in a bend of the Vermillion River. This is the heart of the heart of Kootenay Park, and of the big game country. Bears call on the camp occasionally, sheep, goat and deer are within shooting distance, and fish await the angler. A fourday trip over Wolverine Pass tramps on the toes of Mount Goodsir, pierces Ottertail Valley and, touching McArthur Creek and Lake McArthur, winds at last to O'Hara.

On the top of the hill above the Sinclair Hot Springs, where nature has a 110 degrees bath always ready for you, is Sinclair Hot Springs Camp, another charming cluster of cabins round another community house, a resting place on the road to heaven.

And Heaven, or as near an approach to it as we will ever get in this world, is Lake Windermere Camp. It dreams beside the lake, which in turn sleeps warmly and quietly in the deep trench of the Columbia Valley, walled by the Rockies and the Selkirks, miles and miles apart, carpeted with more flowers than you ever thought could be. Golf, tennis, motor-boating, swimming, shooting, hiking to Toby Canyon, Paradise Mines, Radium Hot Springs, Swansea Park, the Lake of the Hanging Glaciers, and so on and so on; it's all there.

And last, Moraine Lake Camp, in the Valley of the Ten Peaks, where the lake mirrors the mountains in its green heart, a glacier reaching at it with its huge white paw, awaits those who like something a little "off the trail." Easy trips may be made to Coronation Lake, with its birds, flowers and good fishing, to Wenkehemna Lake and Pass, to Lake Louise via Sentinel Pass and lovely Paradise Valley and the grim pit of Sheol (which is another name for Hell) and Saddleback, where tea which beats the ambrosia of Olympus may be had at any hour.

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SOME MARKS OF A GOOD SCHOOL

Dr. John Alison, Headmaster of George Watson's College, speaking at the annual dinner of the London Watsonian Club, said there were several marks of a good school which to everybody should be unmistakable, and he would instance some of them. When a boy was being taught he should be learing those subjects, and not merely spending time over them. He had a visit the other day from a father and mother from the North of England. He asked them how their boy enjoyed school, and he learned that the boy had written home-"In this school the masters fairly rub the lessons into you, but I like it." He took that as a great compliment, and he was glad to find that the masters were busy subbing the lessons in. That was one of the marks of a good school, the boy was learing more than his class lessons, he was learning lessons of duty and thoroughness. In this connection it was often forgotten how much was owed to the class teacher.

Another mark of a good school was when the boys were good sportsmen and could accept defeat with a good spirit and without "grousing." After all it was neither victory nor defeat that mattered. What did matter was that we were playing the game. In a good school there aught to be plenty of scope for individual work, but there was no doubt that the main activities of the boys outside of the classrooms ought to be directed, not to their own personal gratification, but to playing for their house of their school. The great lesson to be learned was that of unselfish co-operation in team work, and he did not know that there was in these democratic times a lesson of greater importance.

The last mark of a good school was that it must have something that the boys could be proud of—a record of achievement, and in this he thought Watson's had been very fortunate. They had every reason to be proud of and grateful to the men who had blased the trail.

NOTES ON EDUCATION

(From the Association of Assistant Masters)

It should be interesting to a student of international politics to compare the methods of higher education adopted in different countries, and the important point of comparison is not the kind of organization established but the methods and ideals of the teachers who are doing the actual work. There are not many significant differences between the administrative systems of any two civilized countries. The government may have more complete control in one case than in another; it may be easier or more difficult to impress the prevailing political or ethical opinions of the governing party on the system, and so on; but the difference we are concerned with is more deep-seated and far-reaching than this.

Anyone who was given an English, an American, and a French text-book on the same subject would recognize at once that he was dealing with three different systems. At the same time he would find it difficult to put into words completely the essence of the distinctions he could not fail to recognize. The books reflect the ideals which the teachers of these

different nations are striving after. They are, in short, the fundamental national characteristics which it is one of the functions of education to hand on from one generation to another. It is important to note. too, that these characteristics can be, and often are, modified in that process of handing on. The spread of a culture from one country to another is usually accomplished by means of the process of education, using the phrase in its widest sense. The present condition of public feeling in the colonies, in Egypt, and in India are well worth comparing with the kind of teaching given in the schools there. The study of a few school-books on history used in the United States will throw a flood of light on our relations with that country. The readiness with which the Belgian and the Balkan countries understand and often adopt the French point of view can be correlated with the fact that teachers and students from those areas find it easy to visit French educational institutions and can be sure of a welcome there. As a result each new generation finds itself more thoroughly and more sympathetically in mental contact with French ideals. Before the war, too, Germany had begun deliberately and successfully to "penetrate" the Balkans in the same way.

During the war we had an excellent opportunity of making our aspirations known and understood by the young people of many parts of Europe. Belgian teachers and professors came to England both to work and to study. Belgian and Serbian children found places in our schools, and took back with them a much fuller understanding and sympathy with our outlook upon life than they had ever had before. They have gone back now, however, and it is unlikely that they will ever be able to afford to keep this spiritual contact with us alive by paying us fresh visits. It is important if we wish for peace and understanding in Europe that this, the only effective way of explaining ourselves, should be developed rather than be allowed to lapse. The teachers in this country are doing their share by visiting the schools in other countries and by discussing, by correspondence and otherwise, methods and aims with teachers of other nationalities. The Associations send representatives for the same purposes to annual conferences with similar organizations in other countries. The British Empire Conference to be held next June at Wembley is the one of these which attracts most attention in England, but there are others held at Brussels, Strasburg, Prague, etc., the importance of which this article has attempted to xplain.

These unsupported efforts are not enough; public opinion should recognize the desirability of the work; there should be public support for schemes of interchange of teachers and pupils between this and other countries, and any wealthy lover of peace could find few better ways of helping to attain his desire than by providing funds for such conferences with foreign teachers in this country. The fostering of such educational liaisons should have the active sympathy of the government, and might well be an important part of the work of the League of Nations.

He began after this fashion:

"My angel-"

"Huh?" sniffed his wife suspiciously. "For you are my angel, aren't you?"

"I gezzo."

"Then you won't get mad if I tell you there is a feather in my soup."

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Seventh Annual General Meeting

Charging the government with issuing "camouflaged permits" to Normal School students, and scoring the practice of making government loans to stu-dent teachers, J. W. Barnett, secretary of the Alberta Teachers' Alliance, delivered an outspoken report at the opening of the annual convention of that body, held in Central Methodist Church, Monday afternoon, April 21. Existing conditions in Alberta tie the hands of the Alliance and make it impossible for the teachers to raise the standard of the profession, declared Mr. "These methods in vogue of overcrowding the teaching profession; of issuing certificates permitting unsuitable persons to teach; of rendering futile the efforts of Normal School staffs to make a real graduation standard effective and final; of refusing to provide adequate protection to efficient and well conducted teachers; of issuing loans to students other than those who are practically certain to qualify, thus taking away from the department the inducement to provide an inefficient with the wherewithal to pay back the loan-all these things militate most strongly against any real advance in the standard of teaching or bettering the personnel of the Alberta staff in rural He stated and referred to the fact that in Manitoba and British Columbia it had been decided not to admit any starred students to Normal School.

The action of the government in this matter, said Mr. Barnett, has been at variance with the recommendations made at a conference of Normal School prineipals and representatives of the Department of Edueation last December and ratified by the latter body. "It is surprising that these recommendations have not been carried out," he added.

In accordance with their protest against the issuing of permits to students who failed to pass their Normal School examinations, or who did not hold the full departmental standing on entering Normal School, the department cut down on these. "We were informed," said Mr. Barnett, "that there were only six permits in operation last October, and we could not understand how this could be. We were not informed that this large number of camouflaged permits were in operation. A permit certificate is granted to a person who is supposed to be recommended by the inspector after the Board has given evidence of inability to obtain the services of a qualified teacher. A permit is good for a stated period, and is only good for one particular school. A letter of authority, however, is much more to be prized. It covers a certain period, renewable, presumably, like the permit, from time to time, but the holder of these 'letters of authority' can apply for and be appointed to any school in Alberta."

The result of such a procedure, pointed out the speaker, is that these students, whose standard has not been high in either High School or Normal School, are unloaded upon the Alberta educational system. They will probably keep better students out of positions, and they are defeating the primary aim of the Alberta Teachers' Alliance, which is to raise the status of the teaching profession academically, professionally and financially.

The drop in teachers' salaries in rural districts during the past few months has been largely due to lack of organization among the teachers. "There is no real over-supply of teachers in Alberta," said Mr. Barnett, but the adverse conditions under which teach-

ers have to labor is affecting the class and numbers of those who are entering the profession. "Less than 650 students are in training this year and the immediate prospect is a teacher famine," he said.

"The present state of affairs," said the speaker, "carries us back to the spirit of despondency which existed in the early days of the Alliance. The teaching body has been patient, unantagonistic, yet expectant, and feels rightly that their case should have been treated with more consideration, and it is evident that a growing discontent is developing at the present laissez-faire attitude adopted by the department in matters of consideration and justice to the teacher."

Mr. Barnett concluded his address by saying that, viewed from every angle, there is greater need than ever for solid unity and strength in the ranks of the Alliance. "The legislature, as a whole, may be apathetic; the department timid, conservative, unaggressixe; interested officials and others whose desire is to save taxes, even at the expense of the future Alberta citizen, unable yet to appreciate what confronts him, may rave and propagandize against a full and complete educational system; the heart of the people is right, the Alberta Teachers' Alliance must rise to the obligation which devolves upon it. The public, lacking knowledge and education in education, is calling for leadership and guidance. May the teaching pro-fession rise to the occasion," he closed.

The meeting opened with the calling of the roll and the address of the president, J. E. Sommerville, which was followed by the report of the treasurer. This latter report was the occasion of much discussion on whether or not the Alliance was spending too much money for organization purposes. The members seemed to be greatly divided upon this question and a large part of the afternoon was spent in considering it, but no definite action was taken. The financial report

of the treasurer was adopted.

Brief reports of the year's work were presented by the district representatives at the evening session, all of whom spoke of a measure of success in the work of the local Alliances, and detailed some of the difficulties and setbacks which had been encountered.

Fraternal greetings were brought from the Alberta Federation of Labor by Frank Wheatley, who brought the invitation of that body to the teachers to affiliate their organization with that of labor. Mr. Wheatley assured the members of the Alliance that there was nothing in the standards of labor which would stand in the way of the teachers forming such an affiliation with it.

Wherever there were labor men on School Boards, said the speaker, they were sympathetic toward the interests of the teachers, upon whom they looked as wage-workers. He urged upon the teachers the necessity of aggressive organization and pointed out the strength which they would gain by affiliation with the labor organization.

Following Mr. Wheatley's address, the secretary spoke briefly, drawing the attention of the teachers to all that the Alliance owed to the Labor party. The latter, he said, is the best informed of any party in Canada on matters of education and the most interested in its progress.

Reports were presented by the president on the C.T.F. Convention, held in Montreal last year, and by

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the secretary on behalf of Miss Mary R. Crawford, Alliance representative on the Albe ta University Matriculation and High School Examinations Board, who was unable to be present.

In the latter connection, the matter of the election of this representative was brought up. Last June, after the annual meeting of the Alliance had taken place, it was decided that the teachers would be allowed a representative on the Board and Miss Crawford was chosen by the executive to fill the position. While every approbation of the action of the executive was expressed, it seemed to be the general opinion of the meeting that in future this representative should be elected at large and by vote at the annual meeting. Since there is a resolution on the agenda covering this point, it was left over for further discussion.

The only resolution passed by the Alliance yesterday was one that provided that the general secretarytreasurer shall submit an estimate to each annual meeting of the Alliance of the expenditures for the coming year, and that such meeting shall have power to pass on the various items of the budget. It was felt that this would be helpful, even if the estimates were not adhered to rigidly.

An interesting report on the year's work of the Law Committee was presented by the secretary, who stated that of the 76 cases in which the Alliance had threatened legal action against School Boards only three cases had actually been carried to the court, the threat in the other instances being sufficient to bring about settlement on the part of the School Board within ten days. He also pointed out that cases brought to the Alliance by teachers were always thoroughly investigated, and that the committee never sued in cases where the Board was situated in droughtstricken areas unless it was conclusively proven that the teacher had been very unfairly treated.

DISCUSSION ON BUREAU OF EDUCATION

Continuing their annual general meeting on Tuesday evening, the members of the Alberta Teachers' Alliance indulged in a long and, at times, intense discussion on the subject of the Bureau of Education. Little business was accomplished, but the discussion, which hinged around the exact definition of the powers and duties of the various officers and centralization of authority in the organization, dealt with what is probably the most vital object of the entire convention, and served to inform the members on many points of interest

H. C. Newland, manager of the Bureau, presented a long and detailed report of the work and methods, the aims and difficulties of the Bureau during the past year. Mr. Newland's report was in effect a defense of the administration of the Bureau against criticisms and what he termed "ill-informed and malicious rumors" concerning it. An auditor's report was produced, which showed the finances of the Bureau to stand with a net profit of \$236.88, after assuming that the majority of items listed under "accounts receivable" are collectable, and after setting aside \$400 as a reserve fund to cover bad debts. The deferred liability of the Bureau, payable during the course of the next two years, amounts to \$5,675, which amount is owing to instructors in the correspondence courses issued by the Bureau.

Mr. Newland explained that legally the Alberta Teachers' Alliance could not operate a trading company, which the Bureau was in view of the fact that it sold correspondence courses, since the Alliance had been formed under the Benevolent and Friendly Societies Ordinance.

For this reason it was necessary to place the Bureau under the control of the A.T.A. Publishing Company, which operates the A.T.A. Magazine, instead of under the direct control of the Alliance. But the directors of the publishing company and of the Bureau were the same persons as the executive of the Alliance, and over 50 per cent. of the shares in the company were held by that body, so that as much control as was humanly possible was vested in the Alliance. The only difference between the status of the Bureau and of the magazine is that the Alliance is pledged to make up any financial deficit which may occur in the latter case and not in the former.

This last point was met in the last five minutes of the meeting, after a discussion which lasted for nearly three hours and dealt with many points, by a resolution proposed by Frank Speakman, of the Calgary Teachers' Alliance. Mr. Speakman's resolution provided that the Alliance assume full responsibility for the activities of the Bureau, and was carried by a

W. S. A. Richards, who appeared on behalf of the correspondence department of Alberta College North, the staff and organization of which department the A.T.A. Bureau had taken over a part, spoke at some length of past differences with the Bureau and the reason why he did not join with the latter organization. Differences had also occurred between the manager of the Bureau and the general secretary-treasurer, and the feeling of both these officers, as well as that expressed by the majority of the speakers at the meeting, was that all trouble in the past had arisen from a lack of clear definition in the constitution of the centralization of authority and the powers of the executive.

C. L. Gibbs then offered a resolution, the preamble to which occasioned some discussion, but the principle of which seemed to be agreeable to the meeting. The main part of the resolution provided that "the organization of the Provincial Alliance be so co-ordinated as to eliminate the present duplication of work and officers and so place all Alliance activities under one direction." This resolution occasioned a lengthy discussion, and at one time a very animated one, and was finally referred to the resolutions committee to be reworded and brought before the next session of the A.T.A. annual general meeting. which will take place at the close of the afternoon session of the convention of the Alberta Educational Association this afternoon.

Many hours were spent Wednesday by the delegates to the annual general meeting of the Alberta Teachers' Alliance in trying to solve the difficult problem of organization and administration, which has grown out of the formation of the Bureau of Education during the last year. The powers and duties of the manager of the Bureau and those of the secretary-treasurer of the Alliance have in the past appeared to overlap or to conflict.

Three resolutions designed to meet with and clarify the situation were presented to the delegates by th Resolutions Committee, and were carried by large majorities. The first of these provides that the executive of the Alliance be the sole authority of the organization and any other organizations subordinate thereto. The second, which was later referred to the incoming executive after full and free discussion of the mistakes of the past and the possibilities of the future, provided that the work of the Alliance and all subsidiary organizations be centralized in one office and under one general manager, whose duties and powers shall be clearly defined by the executive. It

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was felt that in the light of the discussion which had taken place, the new executive would be in a better position to make satisfactory decisions in this matter than the Alliance as a whole.

The two resolutions which stand as passed read as

follows:

"Resolved, That notwithstanding any provision of the constitution, previous resolutions, or procedure to the contrary, this general annual meeting of the Alberta Teachers' Alliance affirms that its executive is the sole authority to carry into effect through its executive officers the resolutions, policies and activities of such alliance and its subordinate organizations, as resolved upon by successive annual general meetings."

ings."

"Resolved, That no paid official of the Provincial
Alliance or of its subordinate organizations shall hold
office or voting power as a member of the provincial

executive."

ALBERTA TEACHERS DEMAND EFFECTIVE CONCILIATION BOARD

Thursday afternoon witnessed the disposal of a large volume of business at the final session of the annual general meeting. The election of officers, the passing of the budget after a considerable amount of discussion, and the passing of a large number of resolutions dealing with contracts, sick pay, dismissals of teachers, the asking of a statutory holiday of Easter week, the establishment of a 200-day year, the maga-

zine, examinations, permits and taxation.

In speaking to a resolution which asked that the Department of Education be again requested to put into operation the Conciliation Board previously agreed to, J. W. Barnett discussed the subject in some detail. The Board as it functions at the present time, said Mr. Barnett, is not of the slightest use—the present Minister of Education has said in public that it was never intended to be of any use, he added-and it seems to be impossible to get the government to doanything about it. Mr. Barnett told of repeated efforts upon the part of the Alliance to get this matter regulated in some way more satisfactory to the teachers, and of the way in which the Minister of Education had balked every effort of this kind. The cost of an efficient Board to the government would only be about \$500, he said, yet the only answer finally obtained from the minister was that if the Alliance could get the Trustees' Association to come with them to ask for this Board of Conciliation, the minister would grant it.

The obvious impossibility of such a means of obtaining the Board proved the determination of the minister not to grant it, declared Mr. Barnett. There were still three ways open to the teachers to obtain this Conciliation Board, which is operated in New Zealand, and in least partial perfection in several Canadian provinces. The first of these is 100 per cent. membership in the A.T.A.; the third, amendment to the contract which teachers sign with School Boards, obviating the necessity for such a Board or an impartial tribunal such as is operated in New Zealand and in certain other Canadian provinces, and which is obviously the best method.

Following Mr. Barnett's discussion, the resolution was passed by a large majority. It read: "Resolved, That the Department of Education be again requested to put into operation the Conciliation Board previously agreed to; and be it further resolved, That all cases before going to said Board for consideration, pass through the provincial executive of the Alliance, thus

assuring that each case be authentic and worthy.

The following officers were elected for the coming year: President, W. W. Scott, B.A.; vice-president, S. R. Tompkins; district representatives: Calgary, F. Parker; Edmonton, H. L. Humphreys; Northern Alberta, J. McCrea; Southern Alberta, S. Reilly; Southwestern Alberta, J. Stevenson. A vote of complete confidence in the ability and discretionary powers of the new executive was passed, and certain of the resolutions were referred to them to deal with as they saw fit.

The budget called for an estimated expenditure of \$12,600, of which \$1,500 was to go for organization work, and another \$1,500 for commission to organizers in the field. A somewhat lengthy discussion centered around these two items, some being of the opinion that the two items should be combined; others that the estimates for organization purposes were too large, and others that the success of the whole Alliance depends on membership, and that, therefore, an even larger amount should be expended upon organization. The discussion finally ended in the unanimous adoption of the budget as presented by the outgoing executive.

A number of resolutions dealing with the policy and publication of the A.T.A. Magazine were referred to the executive with instructions to conduct that publication, as far as possible, in accordance with opinions expressed in a full discussion of its merits and appeals

which took place in the meeting.

Another resolution which was left for framing to the discretion of the executive was one dealing with the representation at voting powers of members at large, who for some reason were unable to connect up with any local in the rural districts, but who were

members in good standing of the Alliance.

The last resolution of the meeting was one which placed the Alberta Teachers' Alliance on record as being opposed to resolutions passed at the recent meeting of the Alberta Federation of Municipalities pertaining to educational matters. In this connection C. L. Gibbs stated that it was merely a matter of taking sides in the big fight which is now on in the province, and of the teachers ranging themselves behind the forces of progress rather than on the side of the reactionaries. The resolution was carried unanimously.

Other resolutions dealt with amendments to the form of contract, so that it might afford greater protection to the teacher, and with the much mooted subject of examinations. A resolution similar to that passed by the A.E.A. asking that either a college of education or a faculty within the limits of the University be established in connection with the University of Alberta.

Sandy had just met his girl at the end of the street, where she was waiting for him. She was looking into a confectioner's window when Sandy made his presence known by remarking:

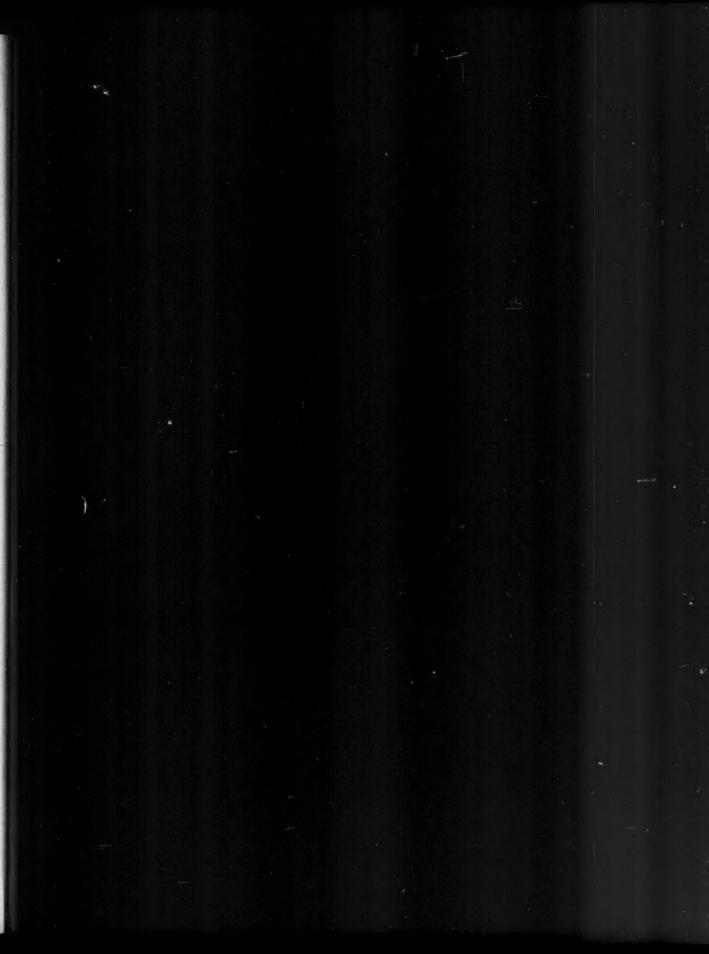
"Weel, Jennie, what are y' gaun to have the

She, not inclined to ask too much, replied: "Oh, I'll just tak what you'll tak, Sandy."
"Oh, then, we'll tak a walk," said Sandy as he

led her away.-Pearson's Weekly.

The chief of the department began to have his doubts as to the ability of his right-hand man to engage suitable girl clerks.

"She may be 'the right type,' as you say," he remarked, "but the question is, can she typewrite?"





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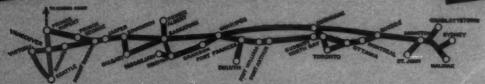


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